



National Shoreline Management Study

Status:

In Progress

IWR Contact:

Michael Lee (Michael.T.Lee@iwr01.usace.army.mil)

Purpose:

Examine Status of the Nation's Shoreline, for the first time in 30 years, in order to provide a basis for making recommendations regarding Federal and non-Federal participation in shore management, in general, and shore protection in particular. The study results are expected to promote a systems and more consistent interagency approach to coastal management.

Objective:

Describe extent of, and economic and environmental effects caused by erosion and/or accretion, causes along U.S. and causes of such change, the systematic movement of sand and Federal and non-Federal resources committed to restore and renourish shores and the larger spectrum of shore protection and management. Recommend methods to apply a systems approach to shore management and the appropriate level of future Federal and non-Federal participation in shore management, shore protection and beach nourishment.

Benefits:

Increase Corps interaction with other agencies; establish a dialog for collaboration and cooperation in developing a comprehensive systems strategy to shore protection and shoreline management.

Progress:

The study was authorized in 1999 and commenced in 2002. A National Interagency Team was formed with the intent of producing an Interagency report to Congress that reflects the diverse federal perspectives of managing the nation's shores. Various studies to support the study were completed and are referenced in the web link below. An effort is being made to complete the study to capitalize on the information of other shore governance and management work since the study began in 2002, e.g., the PEW Commission and US Commission on Ocean Policy, Presidents Ocean Action Plan, National Ocean Economic Program assessments, USGS National Shoreline Assessment Program Regional Reports, NOAA's Vision for CZMA, hurricane events in the Gulf Course, and several Corps lead shoreline protection and regional sediment management studies.

Five interim reports have been published as well as several other documents on topics that include economics of shore protection, regional sediment management, and the history of the Corps shore protection program. These are posted to the NSMS website:
<http://www.nsms.iwr.usace.army.mil/nsmshomeframeset.html> " Online Mapping Application for the Gulf of Mexico, prepared by Shoreline Processes with input from all Work Groups, available at http://gis.sam.usace.army.mil/maproom/_CO35/Default.asp " Regional Sediment Management Primer, Jointly prepared by NSMS and ERDC Regional Sediment Management Demonstration Program, May 2004 " Economics of the Shoreline, An Annotated Bibliography for the National Shoreline Management Study, IWR Report 04-NSMS-5, March 2004 " Addressing Economic Considerations in Shoreline Protection, Proceedings of a Workshop for the National Shoreline Management Study (held July 2002), IWR Report 04-NSMS-2, March 2004 " Historical Origin and Demographic and Geological Influences on Corps of Engineers Coastal Mission, IWR Report 04-NSMS-4, January 2004 " An Assessment of the Nations Shoreline Change: A Review of the 1971 National Shoreline Study, IWR Report 04-NSMS-3, January 2004 " Development of a National-Scale Inventory of Shoreline Change Data for Identification of Erosion and Accretion, Working Draft document for NSMS, January 2004 " Implementing Regional Sediment Management: Opportunities and Impediments, Summary of Joint Corps-CSO Workshop, Oct 2003 " The Corps of Engineers and Shore Protection, History, Projects, Costs, IWR Report 03-NSMS-1, May 2003 " Other documents and papers have been prepared and presented by other Federal agencies in support of NSMS

In 2007, a status report is being prepared to capture progress to date and events which are influencing the direction of the study. NOAA/CZM has initiated an analysis of agency shore management roles.

Products:

Related Links:

- [National Shoreline Management Study](#) (*project web site*)
 - [Mapping Application for the Gulf of Mexico](#)
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Team:

Michael Lee *poc*
Bob Brumbaugh *team member*
Charley Chesnutt *team member*
Jim Henderson *team member*
Lynn Martin *team member*
Jeff Waters *team member*

Partners:

FEMA
NOAA-CSC
NOAA-OCRM
USGS